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The Spectator

Thursday, Oct. 29, 2015
Volume LVI
Number 8

Neil deGrasse Tyson to be next Sacerdote Great Names Speaker

by Brian Sobotko '16
Managing Editor

Neil deGrasse Tyson, renowned astrophysicist, will be the next speaker in the Hamilton College Sacerdote Great Names Series. Tyson will speak on Tuesday, Apr. 12, at 7 p.m. in the Margaret Bundy Scott Field House. Tyson will be the first scientist to speak in the lecture series' twenty-year history. He will give an interactive presentation, followed by an open question and answer period.

Tyson is currently the fifth head of the Hayden Planetarium in New York City. Last year, he served as executive editor and host for the television series *Cosmos: A SpaceTime Odyssey*. The show, which ran thirteen episodes on FOX, won four Emmy awards.

School officials tout the selection of Tyson as someone who is at the top of his field and will excite the campus community. A group of faculty had been lobbying for Tyson to speak at the College and his selection broadens the series in a way school officials have long aimed.

The selection committee, led by Interim Senior Associate Dean of Students Lisa Magnarelli '96, notes they must balance competing interests when deciding on speakers to bring.

"For every person who says bring a politician, someone else says you should never have a politician for this series again," Magnarelli explained.

While Magnarelli notes that Tyson may not have the same universal name recognition as previous speakers, she notes that he is "everywhere right now." In addition to his role on *Cosmos*, Tyson is a frequent guest on Bill Maher's show and made multiple appearances on Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert's old shows.

Tyson, born and raised in New York City, received a bachelor's degree in physics from Harvard and a Ph.D. in astrophysics from Columbia. Tyson has combined a successful professional career with a persona as a public intellectual, authoring books such as *Death By Black Hole and Other Cosmic Quandaries* and *The Pluto Files: The Rise and Fall of America's Favorite Planet.* In 2001, Tyson was appointed by President Bush to serve on a 12-member commission that studied the future of the US Aerospace Industry. He was later appointed by Bush to serve on the "Moon, Mars, and Beyond" commission. In 2006, Tyson was appointed to serve on NASA's prestigious Advisory Council.

Former New York Yankee captain Derek Jeter spoke in the 2014 edition of the series and was the first athlete. There have been 22 total speakers in the series including two events that had two speakers each. Of those 22, eight have been American political office holders including four former secretaries of state (Hillary Clinton, Condoleezza Rice, Madeleine Albright and Colin Powell) and two former presidents (Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter).

Moving forward, the selection committee, led by Magnarelli but comprised of some of the College's top officials, hopes to continue to bring diverse and noteworthy figures. The school must deal with the schedules of the figures they seek. One name on the list this year was Malala Yousafzai, a 2014 Nobel Peace Prize recipient. Yousafzai, however, will not be speaking in the United States this year.

*see **Great Names,** page 3*

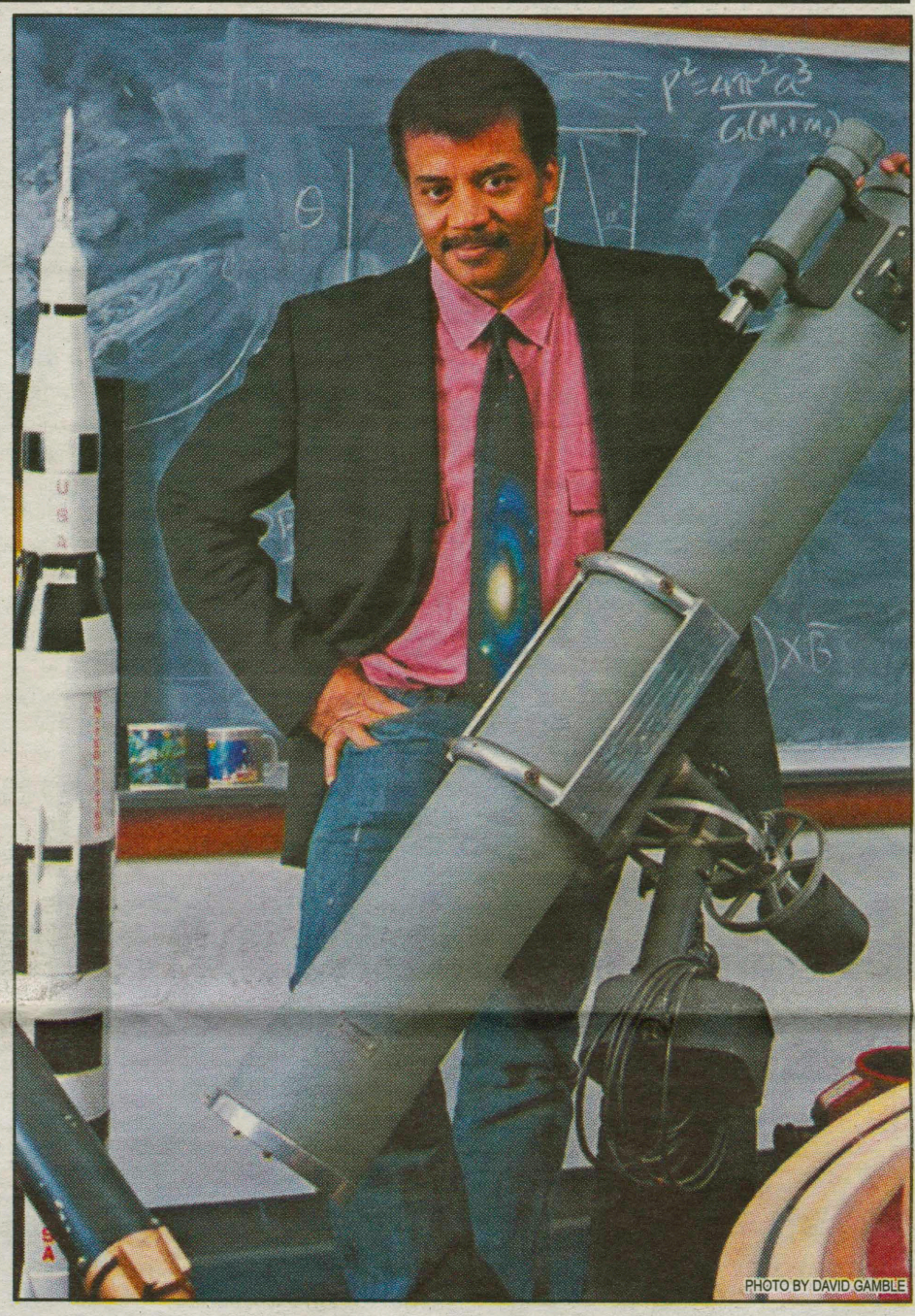


PHOTO BY DAVID GAMBLE

Renowned astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson will speak at Hamilton on Apr. 12, 2016 as a part of the Sacerdote Great Names Speaker series.

SpecSpeak
Journalism lecture series

The News and Information Future: It's Not All Pandas and Puppies!

7:30 p.m. Today
SCCT Kennedy Auditorium

Jim Kennedy

SVP Strategy and Enterprise Development, *Associated Press*

AP

Accompanied by:
Meredith Kennedy '09
Liz Kennedy '05

Henry Allen '63

7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 2
SCCT Kennedy Auditorium

The Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist will speak on his career, the field of journalism and the art of writing.

Hamilton XC leads the pack

by Yoshi Hill '16
Senior Editor

With ideal conditions and the benefit of hosting the meet, Hamilton's cross country teams put on a triumphant display at the New York State Collegiate Track Conference Championship. Michelle Fish '17 took home the individual title, powering the women's team to a second-place finish, a mere eight points behind the team titlists Nazareth College. The men's team ran away with both individual and team recognition, taking seven of the top 10 finishes on the day which gave them the team title by a wide margin of 53 points.

Improving upon a fourth place showing at the Hamilton Invitational, the women's team had four runners in the top 12 Hanna Jerome '18 completed the six kilometer course in 22:59, 30 seconds after Fish, and placed fourth overall. Regarding Fish's performance, Captain Grace Berg '16 added, "Michelle has been making her return after battling injury and cross training for the majority of the season." Elizabeth Perry '18 and Caitlin Anthony '18 followed close behind in eighth and twelfth respectively. Overall, the team had five members receive NYSCTC recognition.

The Continentals were without Lainie Smith '16, a qualifier for

follow Pfander to page 14

Crime writer Frank Lentricchia discusses connection to Utica

by Deasia Hawkins '18
News Writer

Frank Lentricchia, American literary critic, novelist and film teacher, occupied one long table at the front of the Sadove Student Center Conference Room. The talk was well-received by older, well-versed community members. A few faculty members and attentive students—who were probably interested in learning about the ins-and-outs of setting and plot—also attended.

Steven Yao, Edmund A. LeFevre Professor of Literature and Creative Writing at Hamilton College, pulled up a chair next to Lentricchia, as one would do when settling in for a recap of the past 20 years with an old friend. Yao mentioned that Lentricchia's latest novel is operatic and modernistic; a novel that encapsulates all that hard-boiled fiction is.

"Resolutions also reveal that the crimes are index to something politically and socially corrupt."

—Frank Lentricchia

Lentricchia started off his talk by admitting, "I do not enjoy writing a lot of crime fiction" and "I can't map out plots; they come to light during the writing process." This initial jab at his own profession (a crime fiction novelist) sent the audience into an uproar of laughter. According to Lentricchia, the plot of a crime fiction novel is simply cold-blooded action. An audience member reinforced this notice by exclaiming "Plot is not what happens but how it happens."

Lentricchia also mentioned how his wife had recommended crime novels at one point because he was bored and didn't know what to read. If not for this recommendation, he would have probably never gotten into crime fiction. When reading crime novels, Lentricchia was most impressed by the somewhat overwritten tough girl. He appreciated the big personalities of these female characters, a character American crime writers often do not write about. "American crimes writers have never been much of an interest to me," he stated, but he corrected his stance by saying Raymond Chandler was a writer who appealed to him. Chandler perfected the rendition of place and the creation of a strong voice in the first person narrative. "I've always been interested in dialogue," continued Lentricchia, emphasizing the importance of being able to differentiate characters by their voice.

He then turned his attention to a story's plot and it was quite fascinating how quickly and naturally he could connect threads from one idea to the next. Lentricchia claimed that, in the context of a novel, a crime that is violent basically spells out the plot. "Resolutions," he continued, "also reveal that the crimes are index to something politically and socially corrupt." The atmosphere of the room never deviated from sizzling suspense; the audience clung to Lentricchia's every word, as if they were in a crime novel awaiting a verdict.

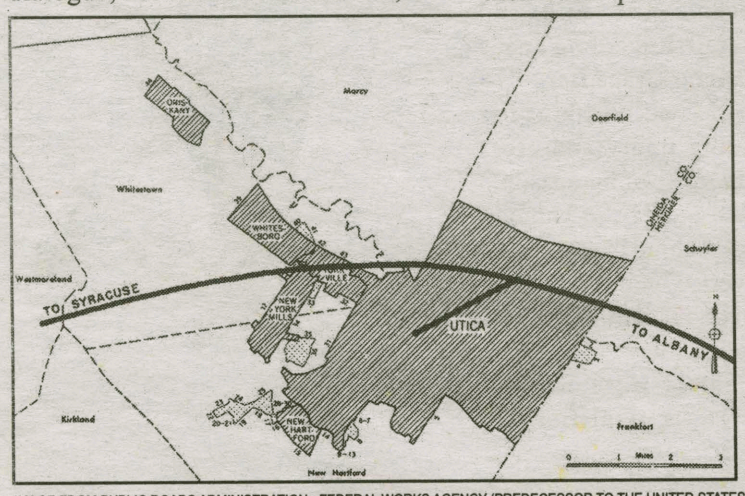
The appearance of Hamilton College, Clinton and Utica in Lentricchia's novels are obvious to those who lived there in the 1960s. His references to all three settings, however, are comprised of both a different ethnic and socioeconomic makeup. He recalled an instance in which his publisher wrote "bleak hinterlands of upstate New York" on the back of one of his novels and how this complete disregard of the beauty of Clinton and Utica upset him gravely. Although Lentricchia no longer lives in Utica, he still considers it his home and this incident eventually led him to hire a new publisher.

The most poetic and sentimental statement Lenctricchia made at the talk was this: "All my books are love letters" to Utica, specifically, but also to Clinton and Hamilton. He then read, both confidently and somewhat erratically, several passages from his novels and the audience visibly fell in love with the witty and cutthroat dialogue of the characters. From just a few passages, one could tell that Lentricchia's writing is blunt yet laced with a dry humor that reflects the gritty feel of crime fiction. He stated he hopes that his books are not viewed as only being nostalgic because "books that are only full of nostalgia are books of mourning." At this point, the sun started to set and the room went dim with only streaks of light cutting in across the carpet.

"All my books are love letters."

—Frank Lentricchia

Throughout the entire talk, there was not a dull moment. Every silence was filled with the rumination of crude jokes and memories of youth. The talk, in essence, emphasized the importance of one's own background: culture, language, and place are all pivotal factors in the creation of a person's identity—and their subsequent literary fame.



Early Federal Highway Administration map of the Interstate Highway System in Utica., where Frank Lentricchia grew up and which continues to fascinate him.

IMAGE FROM PUBLIC ROADS ADMINISTRATION - FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY (PREDECESSOR TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION).

AMHERST BATES BOWDOIN COLBY CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

NESCAC NEWS

by Isaac Kirschner '17
News Writer

Williams Disinvites Feminist Critic

Last week, students at Williams College revoked an invitation to Suzanne Venker, a writer and feminist critic, to speak at the school. Venker had previously been invited to deliver a lecture at the College, as part of a student run speaker series, where she planned to give a talk entitled "One Step Forward, Ten Back: Why Feminism Fails."

According to the speaker series' co-president and Williams student Zack Woods, the group decided to cancel the lecture when comments on the Facebook page got "a little out of hand." Woods later went on to say that "people would get riled up while she was speaking...We're just trying to think ahead here. The last thing we wanted to do was do something destructive."

The lecture series, entitled "Uncomfortable Learning," is designed to bring speakers with controversial views to Williams. It was funded by alumni who gave students the power to choose which speakers they wanted to bring to campus and what topics they wanted them to discuss. The decision to revoke Venker's invitation for her controversial views thus seemed contrary to the groups mandate.

After being disinvited, Venker took to Fox News to give her opinion on the matter. "I had planned to talk about feminism, but from a different perspective than the one students are used to hearing. I was going to tell them why feminism fails." Venker later criticized the speaker series for stifling academic diversity.

Bowdoin Abandons Contentious Jefferson Davis Award

The Bowdoin government and legal studies department announced last week that it would no longer issue its controversial Jefferson Davis Award, a cash prize given to a student who excelled in constitutional law studies. In its place, the department will now offer a new award which is still currently unnamed.

The move was a major initiative of new President Clayton S. Rose. Following this announcement, President Rose commented on the decision in a statement saying, "It is inappropriate for Bowdoin College to bestow an annual award that continues to honor a man whose mission was to preserve and institutionalize slavery."

Jefferson Davis was issued an honorary degree from Bowdoin College in 1858 when he attended the school's Commencement ceremony while traveling through Maine. At the time, Davis was a sitting U.S. Senator from Mississippi who, despite his controversial views on slavery, commanded great respect. Nonetheless, the decision to issue the degree to Davis was still highly contentious within the board of trustees.

"[Davis's] principles were diametrically opposed to those of the majority of the people of Maine; but when a man of his ability and prominence, from a distant state, was present at Commencement, it would have been almost a personal insult not to give him a degree," wrote Louis Hatch in "The History of Bowdoin College."

The College still plans to acknowledge its association with Davis. In a statement, Rose said, "We clearly do not and will not honor [Davis] in any contemporary way going forward. We have a historical connection with him, and that is a fact of history that is undeniable...One of the things that I think is important for institutions like ours is to be transparent and clear and to acknowledge our history, and then for each of us to take lessons from that history."

MIDDLEBURY TRINITY TUFTS WESLEYAN WILLIAMS

Margaret Gentry named Interim VP of Academic Affairs

by Dillon Kelly '18
News Writer

Hamilton College will welcome Margaret Gentry as the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty (VPAA/DOF) for the 2016-2017 academic year. President Joan Hinde Stewart announced the news to the Hamilton community on Monday Oct. 26 with an enthusiastic message about what Gentry will contribute to the college in her new position. Gentry seems to be the perfect person for the job and has the support of many of her peers behind her; the faculty was invited to suggest the names of colleagues whom they wished to recommend for the position this past summer, and Gentry appeared the clear favorite.

President Stewart spoke further about the process of selecting Gentry as VPAA/DOF. She states, "Earlier this fall I met with Academic Council and asked if there were any considerations they wanted me to keep in mind. It was evident to me from the suggestions and comments I received that Margaret Gentry is well respected across campus and has the confidence of her faculty colleagues."

"The [Dean of Faculty]'s job is to make it possible for faculty and staff to do what they do best: teaching, scholarly and creative work, advising, mentoring, working with students and providing an outstanding education for all our students."

—Margaret Gentry

Gentry is certainly well-qualified for her future position. She has been at Hamilton since 1982 and has spent most of her time as a member of the Women's Studies Department, including a number of years as the department chair. In addition to teaching, Gentry has served as Associate Dean of Faculty for the past five years, focusing on faculty recruitment and development.

When asked about what her new job will entail, Gentry spoke of the multiple aspects of the position. She says, "The [Dean of Faculty]'s job is to make it possible for faculty and staff to do what they do best: teaching, scholarly and creative work, advising, mentoring, working with students and providing an outstanding education for all our students." When Gentry assumes the position, she will promote Hamilton's academic mission and programs, as well as the accomplishments of the College's faculty and students, to audiences on-and off-campus.

For the remainder of this academic year, Gentry will continue her work on a research project. The project, which is being completed collaboratively with Assistant Dean of Faculty for Institutional Research and Assessment Gordon Hewitt, focuses on the use of student teaching evaluations in the assessment of college professors. Gentry says, "I am particularly interested in the way the race and gender of the professor is represented in narrative portions of teaching evaluations." She will return next year, however, ready to take on a new and exciting challenge.

President Stewart speaks for the rest of the Hamilton community when she says, "our college is in a strong position and we of course want an Interim Dean of Faculty whose vision and energy will keep things moving forward."

Tyson to become first scientist in Great Names Speaker series

PHOTO COURTESY OF DAVID GAMBLE

Magnarelli said Tyson's interactive presentation will be in a similar style to Al Gore's 2007 version of the series.

from ***Neil deGrasse Tyson,*** *page 1*

Magnarelli also identified President Obama as a dream speaker she hopes to secure over the next few years.

Magnarelli indicated that Tyson's interactive presentation, including a PowerPoint, will be a similar style event to Al Gore's 2007 version of the series. Following the presentation, Tyson will participate in an open question and answer period. The questions will not be pre-screened.

The College will release more information on the specifics of the event, including information on ticketing and group reservations at the beginning of next year.

Campus Safety Incident Report

In an effort to increase Campus Safety's transparency and draw attention to students' dangerous and destructive behaviors, *The Spectator* will publish a selection of the previous weekend's incidents each Thursday. The entire report is available in the online edition of *The Spectator.* Both Campus Safety and *The Spectator* will use their discretion regarding what is published.

Thursday, October 22, 2015

5:33 p.m. Trouble Alarm – 1 Anderson Road
7:23 p.m. Trespass – Alumni Gym
11:43 p.m. Fire Alarm – Events Barn

Friday, October 23, 2015

10:59 p.m. Fire Alarm – Milbank Hall

Saturday, October 24, 2015

1:24 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
1:27 a.m. Fire Alarm – Milbank Hall
2:09 a.m. Altered License – Jitney
12:45 p.m. Medical Emergency – Cross Country Course
3:55 p.m. Smoke Detector – North Hall
5:13 p.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
6:38 p.m. Smoke Detector – Griffin Road Apts.
10:45 p.m. Noise Complaint – Milbank Hall
11:10 p.m. Noise Complaint – Milbank Hall

Sunday, October 25, 2015

12:01 a.m. Noise Complaint – Babbitt Hall
12:13 a.m. Unauthorized Party – Root Farmhouse
12:30 a.m. Unauthorized Party – North Hall
12:44 a.m. Unauthorized Party – Carnegie Hall
12:49 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
12:58 a.m. Noise Complaint – Carnegie Hall
1:07 a.m. Medical Emergency – Tolles Pavilion
1:25 a.m. Medical Emergency – Residence Hall
1:55 a.m. Alarm Activation – Wellin Museum
2:49 a.m. Marijuana Complaint – North Hall
10:10 p.m. Smoke Detector – Minor Hall

Introducing *Spec*Speak

Hamilton College stands apart from its peer institutions for its renowned writing program, a defining characteristic of its prestigious academic curriculum. Through writing-intensive courses and the significant assistance of the Nesbitt-Johnson Writing Center, Hamilton improves and primes the skills of even the most eloquent student writers.

Though there do exist college courses pertaining to reading and writing creative nonfiction, there currently are no courses relating specifically to journalism. Time and time again, leaders of student publications struggle to find new, or just consistent, contributors. And, despite the impressive list of accomplished alumni journalists—former writer for *The Washington Post* and recipient of a 2000 Pulitzer Prize Henry Allen '63; former Special Projects Editor and former White House Correspondent for *TIME Magazine* Barry Seaman '67; and founding Executive Editor of *ESPN Magazine* Steve Wulf '72, to name a few—the Career and Life Outcomes Center lacks the connections and options for students interested in pursuing journalism internships and careers.

While notable journalists, such as Paris-based world news editor for The Daily Beast Christopher Dickey, have come to the Hill for small lectures, they came to discuss particular issues rather than specifically journalism and careers in the industry.

Accordingly, *The Spectator* finds that it has a greater responsibility to the student body than its role as the official student newspaper: It is an educational tool, a vehicle through which students can both discover their love of journalism and practice the craft in a legitimate publication. It fills the journalistic void on campus, providing interested students with the outlet and form of education they want and need in order to learn a style of writing Hamilton does not currently teach.

That is why we chose to begin our new journalism lecture series, *Spec*Speak. We are hopeful that this series will help us grow as journalists, while also opening a new avenue of discourse between interested students and successful alums in an the field.

***The Spectator* editorial represents the opinions of the majority of the editorial board. It is not necessarily unanimously agreed upon.**

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***The Spectator* is a publication of the Hamilton College Media Board. A volunteer staff of students handles all aspects of the weekly publication. The purpose of the newspaper is to provide the Hamilton Community with an honest, fair, timely and high-quality publication.**

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Celebrating our 167th year in print. First published as The Radiator *in 1848.*

The Spectator

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Letters to the Editor Policy

The Spectator's Letter to the Editor section is designed to be a forum for the entire Hamilton community to discuss and debate campus, local, national and global issues. Pieces published in the section express the opinion of the individual writers and are not necessarily the opinions of *The Spectator*, its editors or the Media Board.

Letters to the Editor are welcome from all students, alumni/ae, faculty, friends of the college and Hamilton community members.

The Spectator has the following policies for submission:

1. Submissions are due by 10:00 p.m. on the Monday before publication. The editors reserve the right to refuse any late submissions.
2. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. The editors reserve the right to cut off letters at 500 words.
3. Letters submitted anonymously will not be printed.
4. *The Spectator* reserves the right not to publish any letter it deems inappropriate for publication.
5. If a piece is determined to be libelous, an unwarranted invasion of privacy, or an unnecessary and/or unwarranted ad hominem or personal attack, it will not be published.

About Us

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2016 RACE TO THE WHITE HOUSE

Rubio will clinch GOP candidacy but Clinton will win the White House

by Charles Dunst '18
OPINION WRITER

The 2016 election has been on the minds of Republicans ever since President Barack Obama's commanding defeat of Mitt Romney in 2012. Obama has defeated the Republicans in back-to-back elections and many believe that Hillary Clinton will continue this trend of Democratic domination. At one point, the Democratic and Republican fields consisted of five and eigtheen candidates respectively. While the Democratic nomination is largely a two-horse race between seasoned politicians Clinton and Bernie Sanders, the Republican field is led by political outsiders, such as Donald Trump and Ben Carson. The 2016 GOP race has already proven to be wildly unpredictable. This unpredictability will keep many fledgling candidates in the race, and I believe that one candidate will be able to capitalize on the uniqueness of this election: Marco Rubio.

A piece of the unpredictability is the lack of a "next man up." There is usually an informal "next man (or woman) up" mentality within political parties. Just ask Clinton, who, like many Democrats, believed that the 2008 Democratic nomination was hers to lose. In 2008, Senator John McCain, the 2000 runner-up, was the Republican choice and in 2012 it was Mitt Romney. This year there is no obvious choice, as the competitive 2012 candidates have all flamed out and have chosen not to run again, with the exception of Rick Santorum who now occupies a place at the bottom of the polls. With no clear favorite, the prize is up for grabs, and despite Trump and Carson's high polling numbers, they have yet to be coronated. Therefore, as a Republican candidate, if you have the money, the ambition and some slice of the electorate, there is no reason not to stay in it.

Despite Carson and Trump maintaining a stronghold in the polls, there is a belief that eventually these outsiders will fade away and a true politician will be chosen. Therefore, if the candidates have the money to do so, they will stay in the race as long as possible with the hope that it will come crashing down for the non-politicians. Despite leading the field, political commentators on both sides of the spectrum are unwilling to declare Carson or Trump as the likely Republican nominee. According to the Huffington Post's poll, Trump holds 32 percent, while Carson received 21.6 percent. To put this in perspective, Trump more than quadruples third-place nominee Jeb Bush's 7.3 percent. Ted Cruz, a hard-right, Canadian-born Senator from Texas, and Republican Presidential nominee, echoes this sentiment. Cruz stated, "I don't believe Donald is going to be the nominee and I think in time the lion's share of his supporters end up with us." Mitt Romney furthered the thought, simply explaining that "I will support the Republican nominee. I don't think that's going to be Donald Trump." The Guardian, Vice, TheDailyBeast and CNBC have all run articles discrediting Trump's possible presidency. This sentiment is certainly contributing to the continuation of many Republican campaigns, as each candidate believes that they will be the establishment choice over the seemingly unelectable non-politicians.

I do not believe Donald Trump or Ben Carson will be the next President of the United States. I believe that it will

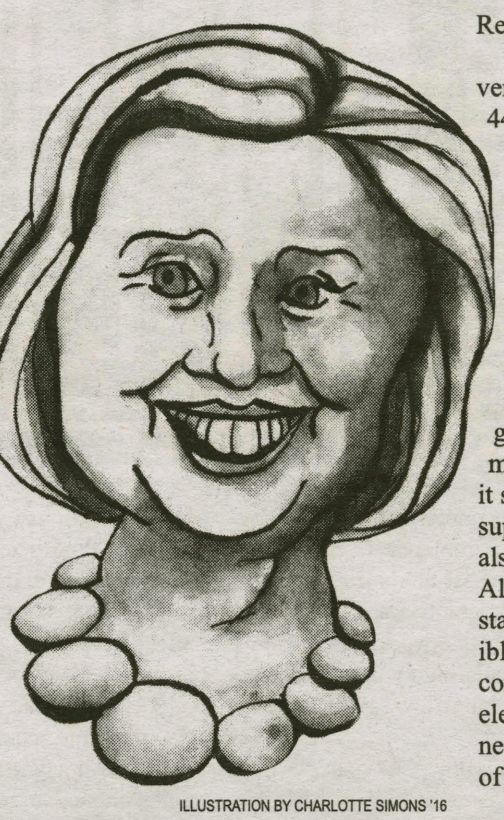

ILLUSTRATION BY CHARLOTTE SIMONS '16

be a Democrat, and it seems more than likely that this Democrat will be Hillary Clinton — despite my adoration for Bernie Sanders. Clinton's 2016 win will not be over Trump or Carson. However, most other candidates have failed to galvanize the Republican party. Jeb Bush, despite his family name and establishment donors, has been unable to capture any meaningful support. Ted Cruz, Rand Paul and Mike Huckabee all have their little niches within the party, but not one of them can win over moderate voters. Fired Hewlett Packard CEO Carly Fiorina is currently polling sixth, but she has been on the downswing recently. In my mind, this leaves Marco Rubio as the only viable, electable establishment Republican.

In an odd way, Rubio is the GOP's version of Barack Obama. He is only 44 years old, two years younger than Obama was in 2008. He is similarly inexperienced, as he has only been serving in the Senate since 2011. Unlike any of his Republican predecessors, Rubio's parents are Cuban immigrants. Rubio is certainly a Conservative, but he is somewhat moderate. Rubio believes in balancing gay anti-discrimination with religious rights. He does not believe in gay marriage, but he previously argued that it should be left for the states. He even supports immigration reform. Rubio is also known to act in bipartisan manners. Along with these positions, his minority status and social commentary is incredibly important. Whites are unlikely to constitute more than 70 percent of the electorate next year, and GOP strategists need to appeal to the growing population of minority voters.

Rubio's background adds to the reasons which make him appealing. Rubio, speaking on Fox News, marked Black Lives Matter as a "legitimate issue" that the "nation has to confront." In speaking like this, Rubio may be able to capture not only the highly nuanced Hispanic vote, but also the Black vote. Rubio is young, electable by moderates as well as minorities, unlike many of his competitors. More importantly, he has the money and resources to stay in the race until both Trump and Carson lose their stronghold on the polls. I believe that the Senator from Florida will be the 2016 GOP nominee; however, he will be handily defeated by Clinton, who will become the nation's first female president.

The Egyptian experience of Syrian refugees

by Hady Hewidy '17
OPINION WRITER

Within academic realms such as Hamilton, arguments that rely solely on emotional appeal are often dismissed. However, the line between emotional and intellectual appeals fades away when we encounter horrific humanitarian crises such as the current plight of refugees around the world. Last week, I introduced the subject from an emotional standpoint and argued that our apathy toward the crisis makes us responsible for the consequences. This week, I will introduce what is regarded as a more realistic approach to the issue: a personal testimony of the situation of Syrian refugees in Egypt.

Syrian refugees started fleeing to Egypt as early as 2011; however, none of them came with the refugee status that is defined and protected by international law. In fact, despite Egypt's long history harboring refugees from Palestine, Lebanon, Sudan and Iraq, Egypt has never acknowledged their status as refugees. Moreover, Egypt has a very strict policy towards immigration, and citizenship is only granted to foreigners under extreme circumstances, after a laborious process and the president's approval. That description might sound inhumane, but in the past few decades, Egypt has succeeded in providing safety to hundreds of thousands of asylum seekers while staunchly defending its nationality laws.

The good aspect about the Syrian refugees' situation in Egypt could be summarized in one simple word: safety. An estimated 130,000 Syrians refugees in Egypt are safe from the constant threat of death and destruction that they faced in war-torn Syria, and the similarities in religion, culture and language makes Egypt a more hospitable nation..

Despite this, there are many aspects of the refugee situation in Egypt that are less than ideal. Syrians live in a legal limbo in Egypt. Their official status is somewhat uncertain. For a Syrian refugee to legally remain in Egypt, they must possess official documents granted by the Syrian regime. However, the Syrian government only grants documents to loyalists or individuals who left the country through official means—invariably a very small minority of refugees. Moreover, Syrian refugees have been brought into the recent political conflicts in Egypt. For example, the Muslim Brotherhood attempted to engage some of the refugees in their dissent against the regime. The outcome was a backlash and a change in public opinion that negatively impacted these refugees. This represents just one of the many facets that characterize the vulnerability Syrian refugees face.

Syrian refugees started coming to Egypt in exodus-like numbers when Egypt was suffering political and economic chaos. Nonetheless, many of these refugees have been able to achieve inspiring feats. Syrian refugees have exhibited willingness to take on any type of job and do it with an impressive devotion. That has been a large scale phenomenon all over Egypt. Highly-educated Syrian refugees with a good work ethic have out-competed many Egyptian workers. They have been able to truly raise bar in the labor market. Additionally, many Syrians have started successful small business. Many of these business managed to succeed in a time of extreme economic distress in Egypt.

Let me give you a practical example: last summer, I went with a friend to eat at a Syrian restaurant. The waiting line was unusually long. Beside my fascination with the food, I was intrigued by how these refugees managed to collect the necessary capital to launch such a magnificent restaurant in one of Cairo's high-end neighborhoods. I asked one of the employees and he told me that in fact the restaurant started as a much smaller business in a humbler neighborhood, but soon they were able to expand. I was impressed to know that everyone working in the restaurant is in fact a shareholder. Everyone working contributed to the business in the beginning. Their odd-defying success story based on capital and labor cooperation was simply inspiring.

This testimony of the Syrian refugees' situation in Egypt is meant to convey several messages. First, the willingness to welcome refugees is a decision that yields complex results. While they can pose a heavy burden to the host country upon their arrival, in the long run refugees can adequately acclimatize to their host and become productive members of their adopted society. Moreover, Egypt is an example of how the global burden of refugees mostly falls on less-developed nations. As European countries bicker on how, when and why they will deal with Syrian refugees, 84 percent of people displaced by war are taken in by the so-called "third-world." Perhaps when it comes to generosity, the richest countries on Earth should realize that immediate discomfort is a price worth paying for saving the lives of innocent men, women and children.

Prison problem ignored in political debates

by Caroline Harrington '16
OPINION EDITOR

ILLUSTRATION BY CHARLOTTE SIMONS '16

Following yet another debate of the presidential season, there has been a lot of questions about who won the debate, but the real question is, who lost? The real loser is an enormous underclass catalyzed by America's prison system. Once again, the criminal justice system was not mentioned in a debate setting.

Only a handful of candidates address the need for reform on their websites, with some dedicating a mere paragraph. It's not surprising that most candidates participating in the discussion are Democrats. Liberals have been leading the charge for prison reform for decades. Yet it is still upsetting that only two registered Republican candidates out of the pool of 15 actually mention criminal justice at all. The numbers are overwhelmingly lacking while the prison problem continues.

In the past 40 years, incarceration rates have increased immensely. According to The Sentencing Project, since the start of the War on Drugs in 1971, incarceration rates have risen from 200,000 to 2.2 million people currently in the nation's prisons and jails. Ironically, according to statistician Marc Mauer, drug use and drug crimes have not explicitly decreased in response to these strict policy changes. With increased inmate populations, prisons see immense overcrowding and minimal funding for rehabilitative programs. Paroled and back in the outside world, recidivism is statistically highly probable, especially within low socioeconomic situations.

Thus, the policies in place are ultimately unhelpful in both preventing future crime and facilitating the reintegration of inmates back into society. The prison system is a cyclical culture where low-income neighborhoods—statistically black neighborhoods—are subject to a high risk of incarceration. It is as if incarceration is a chronic disease: inevitable and so far unpreventable.

The criminal justice issues of overcrowding, recidivism, racism in sentencing and focus on nonviolent drug crimes do not only affect inmates. The entire society is impacted by outlasting effects of socioeconomic distress, felony disenfranchisements that prevent criminals the right to vote, direct familial impacts and the future of our nation through juvenile systems as well as the fates of paroled inmates reintegrated in society. As much as we try to characterize prisoners as violent others outside of society, the lives of the incarcerated population are actually not so separated from our own. The impacts of incarceration on individual families, communities and the economic and political systems as a whole are unquantifiable.

There is no debate amongst experts that reform in the criminal justice system is necessary for a number of reasons. Yet why is it that this issue has not been a part of the presidential conversation? The only candidate with extensive plans for criminal justice reform is Martin O'Malley, a name to which many respond with "who?" Third behind Hillary and Bernie, O'Malley lists lengthy ideas including re-entry programs and changes in drug sentencing.

Other candidates who at least mention the criminal justice system are Hillary Clinton (with vague statements about race), Bernie Sanders (briefly), Rand Paul (with a cute video), Chris Christie (an unpopular Republican) and Jim Webb ("who?"). Here we are confronted with one of the biggest issues in presidential races: unspecific plans and ideas. We have Democrats who barely scratch the surface of criminal justice issues to please constituents without presenting substantial ideas on how to improve the system. And across the aisle we have Republicans who largely ignore the issue.

Recently, President Barack Obama has demonstrated what a proactive president can do for prison reform. Other than being the first president to visit a prison, Obama has commuted 76 sentences for drug-related offences. He also asked Congress to send him a prison reform bill by the end of the year in order to reduce some minimum sentences. Yet even with all of these attempts at progress, debate mediators have avoided prison-themed questions. Sure the justice system isn't as glamorous as the Iran deal and it doesn't have a simple black and white solution like defunding Planned Parenthood. But it deserves more of a spotlight than the current overwhelming radio silence.

It is up to the presidential candidates to start this conversation as well as the public to force them to effect this necessary change.

Thumbs Up	Thumbs Down	Who Cares?
Alternative Spring Break: You can officially sign up to spend two full weeks behind the Opus counter listening to Grimes.	**Heaven and Hell Party: It might be Halloween, but nothing haunts you more than the memories of what you did the last time you were in Bundy.**	**Full Moon: Significantly better (though not whiter) than the moons of the streaking team.**
SAT Tutoring: In which we realize that the 'mean' is not the sandwich lady in Commons, the 'mode' is not a way to serve pie and the 'median' is not something on a highway.	**Senior job search: The Irish found potatoes more easily during the famine.**	**Reel Rock 10: Keep in mind that it's a movie about rock climbing, not a festival celebrating films by the best actor of our time, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.**
Archery Equipment found in Garbage: After some dumpster diving, Carrie and Jessye now have accessories for their Katniss Everdeen costume.	**Real estate club: A bunch of bros trying to figure out whether they're really in Rogers Estate or if they're drunk and in a stranger's house off campus.**	**Students for Bernie Sanders: Ideal place for those who still wanted to feel the Bern even though Fitness Club was cancelled.**

by Jessye McGarry '16 and Carrie Solomon '16

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this column are purely of a satirical nature, and are not representative of the views of *The Spectator* editorial board.

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Bachelor and Bachelorette

Adam Evertz '17

PHOTO COURTESY OF ADAM EVERTZ '17

Hometown: *Torrington, Connecticut.*
Home on Campus: *Babbitt 17 (second year in a row).*
Major: *Comparative Literature.*
Turn On? *Aesthetic discernment.*
Turn Off? *Doesn't like to read.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Babbitt—sweet giant of the darkside.*
Lights on or lights off? *On, preferably strobe.*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Morrissey and QT—sadboy pomp with a candylike interior.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"It takes a tough man to make a tender chicken." -Perdue.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Reruns of the X-Files.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *James Robbins invited me to look at his cricket collection one time.*
What's your type? *In terms of pokemon: psychic and ghost type. In people: pretty much the same.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Semicolons, Trivia Night, my friends.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *Babbitt common room: sticky and cold (but potentially cozy?).*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *The prison under the bridge.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *KDO.*
What's your spirit animal and why? *A cinderblock.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Streaking.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Club Ento, sighing in groups, peaches.*
What would you give a thumbs down? *Pesto, beaches.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Jared Mandelbaum and Sam Mengual—I love trivia night!*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Tie: Benj Widiss and Sharon Williams.*
What would your perfect date be? *Romantic rendezvous in a corn field, interrupted by some aliens making crop circles.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A plaster foot.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Stealing from suite kitchens.*

Eliza Geeslin '16

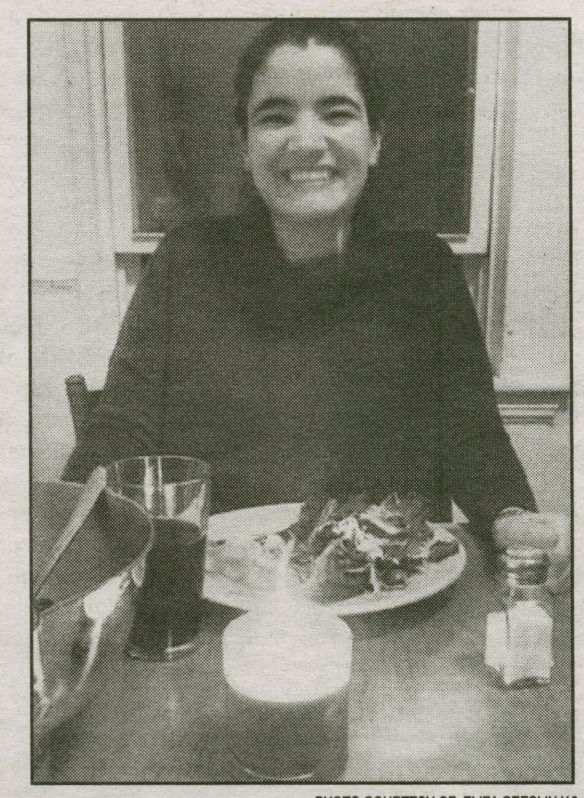


PHOTO COURTESY OF ELIZA GEESLIN '16

Hometown: *Brooklyn, New York.*
Home on Campus: *Babbitt.*
Major: *Sociology.*
Turn On? *Is a cutie.*
Turn Off? *Knows he is a cutie.*
If you were a dorm which would you be and why? *Bundy because it's full of singles ;)*
Lights on or lights off? *Flickering (the spOoOooOkier the better).*
If you had to describe yourself as the love child of any two musicians, whom would you pick and why? *Adele and Justin Timberlake.*
What advertising slogan best describes your life? *"I'm feeling lucky."-Google.*
What TV genre best describes you? *Disney Channel Movies.*
What's the best pick-up line you've ever used/had used on you? *"Hey I'm at Five Guys, do you want anything?"*
What's your type? *12 pt. Times New Roman.*
What are three things you cannot live without? *Sushi, my silk robe and a bottle opener.*
If you were any social space, what would it be? *The Pub.*
Where do you go when you want to be alone? *The painting studio.*
If you could join one group on campus, what would it be? *I'd want to join the Conspiracy Theorists (or DO I?).*
What's your spirit animal and why? *Quokka because they are so smiley.*
If you could break one rule at Hamilton and get away with it, which would you choose? *Keeping a keg in my closet.*
What would you give a thumbs up? *Good tippers at the Pub!*
What would you give a thumbs down? *The rock swing being anchored to the ground.*
Who would you say is your campus crush? *Jared from the bookstore.*
Who would you say is your faculty crush? *Professor Steve Wu.*
What would your perfect date be? *I'd have to say April 25th because it's not too hot and not too cold. All you need is a light jacket.*
What is the weirdest thing currently in your room? *A cactus named Felicia.*
If you could remake the points system, what would be the number one offense? *Sexual assault would stay at the top. But also driving to class—we're a "pedestrian campus."*

Sex and the Campus

Whips and chains: Not just for Halloween

by Kate Cieplicki '16
Features Writer

At the end of a long day, do you ever just want to lie on your bed naked and have your sexual partner tie you up? Ok, maybe you don't crave these sort of sexual encounters. Yet. Experimenting with BDSM sexual practices can provide real benefits to your sex life while improving your mood. If nothing else, trying out new BDSM inspired activities in the bedroom can make a mundane sex life more interesting.

BDSM stands for Bondage & Discipline, Domination & Submission and Sadism & Masochism. Approximately one fifth of people incorporate these practices into their sex life to varying extents. BDSM is a broad category. Activities can range from gently biting your partner's ear to engaging in a full-blown dominant-submissive relationship complete with a contract (but without the weird abusive relationship dynamic of *50 Shades of Grey*).

A BDSM sexual encounter implies that one sexual actor is the dominant while the other is the submissive. In a healthy BDSM encounter, both dominants and submissives benefit from their respective roles. The dominant (the person "in charge" of the sexual situation) gains a feeling of power from the sexual encounter. Most dominants may feel out of control in other aspects of their life and find refuge in being in total control of their partner's pleasure. Submissives tend to have Type A personalities. They are in control of other aspects of their life and like taking a break in the bedroom to be pleasured and controlled. The submissive can remove their consent from the dominant at anytime, no questions asked.

Though male dominants and female submissives are somewhat more visible in the BDSM community, researchers believe that an approximately equal number of men and women like being dominants and submissives (many like experimenting with both roles). The prevalence of male submissives helps explain why the dominatrix (women who are paid to sexually dominate men) business is huge.

When I talk to people about BDSM, I encounter a couple of misconceptions. Some people believe that individuals who want to try BDSM are emotionally damaged or trying to overcome past traumas. In reality, research doesn't indicate that individuals drawn to BDSM are any more "damaged" than individuals who prefer more vanilla sex. In fact, people who engage in elements of a BDSM relationship with their partner tend to trust their partner more and show lower less stress levels after sex. Relationships that incorporate BDSM also encourage more conversation about the sex a couple is having, often resulting in better, more conscientious sex.

Another misconception of BDSM is that BDSM always involves pain. Yes, pain can be part of BDSM, but it doesn't have to be. BDSM plays with sensation. For example, grabbing someone's hips firmly, blindfolding someone, running a feather down someone's chest or pinning their hands above their head could all be considered part of BDSM, even though none of these acts involve pain. Of course, some BDSM practices do incorporate pain, but it is pain that a partner receives willingly and finds pleasure in either experiencing or overcoming. Some people like incorporating pain into sexual activities because pain in a certain area (e.g. slapping a butt) can increase sensation in an already erogenous zone, making sex feel even better. There are many beneficial elements to BDSM whether it involves pain or not. I encourage you not to let a fear of pain keep you from sprinkling some BDSM elements into your sex life. Both people in long-term relationships and people looking to hook-up can experiment with BDSM.

Individuals in monogamous relationships can explore BDSM fairly easily. Make it a date! Drive to the local New Hartford mall and peruse the sex toy section of Spencer's Gifts. These toys are cheap and easy to use. Purchase a few items that look intriguing or make you giggle and test them out in bed, preferably when you're both sober. Establish a safe word to ensure consent, establish who will be dominant and who will be submissive (you can each try each role) and go from there. Debrief afterward on what felt good and what didn't. For the cheap toys that you enjoy (e.g. pink fuzzy handcuffs), invest in a better version of the toy from an online sex store or Amazon (e.g. actual Velcro ties). These products are of a higher quality and will last longer than Spencer toys so they are worth the extra money. If you don't enjoy any toy, that's ok too! You can always come back to certain accessories or put BDSM experimentation on the shelf for a different time or a different relationship.

Incorporating BDSM into a hook-up is trickier, but still possible. Here, as in a relationship, consent is absolutely mandatory. Don't just hit someone with a belt or pull out a Taser (yes, it's happened). If you and your hook-up have chemistry and are comfortable together, bring up something specific you are interested in trying. For example, a dominant may ask "Is it ok if I try tying your hands together with my tie?" while a submissive may ask "Can you tie my hands up with your tie?" You may not get to drizzle hot wax on your hook-up's body, but you can try to incorporate some elements of BDSM practices. The worst a partner can say is no (and if they do say no, of course, respect that choice). Once a partner agrees to try a certain activity, as in a long-term relationship it is important to establish and respect a safe word. BDSM is only BDSM if consent can be revoked at anytime. Otherwise, it is sexual assault.

Consider adding some kink to your next sexual experience. It is fun and healthy to want to expand the parameters of your sexuality and experimenting with BDSM is one way to do so. If you want to learn more about BDSM, check out blogs and forums. These share real-life BDSM experiences and tips for couples and individuals looking to enter the BDSM scene.

**A big thank you to the Sex Nerd Sandra podcast "Healthy Kink" that helped with my research for this article.*

Great coffee, not so great atmosphere

by Bridget Lavin '18
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Utica Coffee might be gone from Commons, but you won't have to look far to find their coffee once again! The Utica Coffee Roasting Company has recently opened up shop in downtown Clinton, replacing the recently closed Cafe J. And they're good.

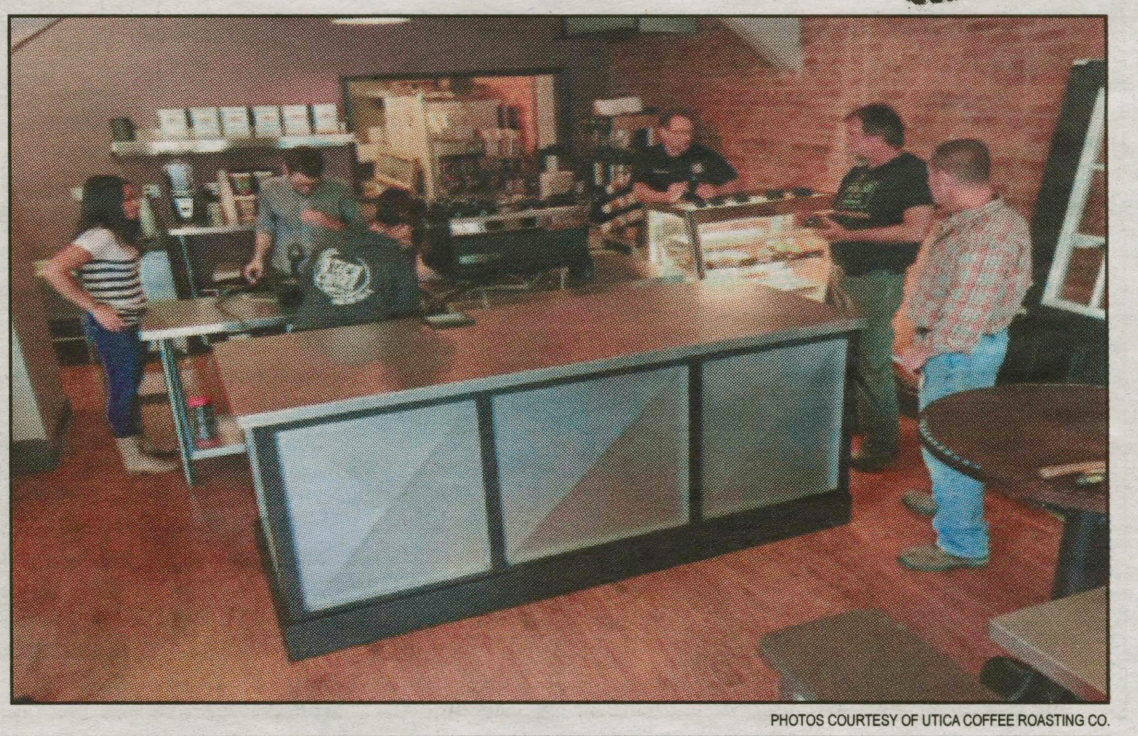
Well, pretty good.

There was definitely a cool vibe in the shop, but it felt a bit out of place in Clinton. The modern architecture and limited seating gave the impression that the shop was located in a bustling Brooklyn neighborhood, rather than a historic, rural village. The workers were fast and efficient, spitting out orders in a mechanical way that matched the design of the building, which was intensely focused around an industrial chrome counter. While I appreciated this, as I was eager to get on with my day, it felt a little like I was being rushed out of the shop. If one had entered intending to enjoy a coffee and get some work done, they would be sadly mistaken. There were only a few tables, each with awkwardly arranged seating, which would be fine for a quick conversation while enjoying a bagel, but little else. Furthermore, much of the already limited space in the cafe was taken up by the excessive Utica Coffee merchandise, leaving the visit feeling incredibly cramped and slightly unwelcome.

The coffee though? Excellent. I thoroughly enjoyed my drink as I made my way back up the Hill, and the blueberry muffin was fresh and fluffy. The coffee was also at the perfect temperature, I could drink it right away without burning my tongue, but it remained warm while I worked on my homework. Definitely worth taking the time to stop by.

The new cafe replaces the previously beloved Cafe J, which closed its doors in early August. The owners are hoping the (relatively) well-known name will attract more customers to the area and transform Clinton into a bustling metropolis. Just kidding, but they are hoping it will encourage more patrons who previously might not have visited to check Clinton out. While they have fostered an overall good experience with quality coffee and snacks, I doubt the addition of a new cafe (in replacement of another coffee shop) will make much of a difference.

My suggestion? If you're looking for a chill environment to drink some coffee, enjoy a cookie and get some work done with a good ambiance, stick with Opus. But if you happen to be down in Clinton and get a craving for some great coffee, Utica Coffee is the place for you.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF UTICA COFFEE ROASTING CO.

Discipula latinorum: My journey through the liberal arts

From Where I Sit:
Hamilton's International Perspectives

by Kaan Mihci '19
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

PHOTO COURTESY OF KAAN MIHCI '19

I first stumbled upon "From Where I Sit" a few days before Hamilton sent out last year's acceptance letters. Back then, driven by anxiety and excitement over my possible acceptance, I surfed the internet endlessly and read everything about Hamilton in hopes of getting a deeper understanding of the school. Most writers of this column have chosen to compare their countries to the US. Therefore, it is only natural that I too write about Ethiopia and compare it to where I am now.

I have been a science student all my life. Having studied physics and chemistry for the past six years, I can say that I know more about science than anything else. Consequently, everyone in my high school was surprised to hear that I was going off to a liberal arts school. Little did they know my science-intensive background was what drove me to apply to Hamilton College. With its open curriculum and stimulating courses in academic disciplines, Hamilton was, in my opinion, the perfect place for me to understand myself and decide what I want to do with my life. Finally free from the rigorous, monotonic Ethiopian education system, I promised myself that I was going to take my time and explore different departments. True to my word, for my first semester, I chose four courses that are significantly different: Economics, Calculus, ESOL and Latin.

Latin was my brother's idea. Having chosen three classes that I deemed important for my first semester of college, I was left to choose one more class. My brother advised me to take Latin for we both share a love for languages. I agreed. As the base of many romance languages—some I know and many I plan to learn—Latin was the perfect choice for me. I have always loved learning new languages, but learning an arguably monumental language like Latin is a prodigious experience.

The first day, our professor declared to the class that Latin is a dead language, a fact that all my friends tease me about. Even though it is not used conversationally, however, Latin has a significant usage in our modern world. It helps us understand Romance languages, such as English, French and Spanish, better. We also need it to analyze Roman literature. Every day, my classmates and I translate sentences taken from the works of Cicero, Virgil and Ovid. I personally love Latin because it is not a spoken language. Relieved from the pressure of nailing down the accent or even pronouncing words correctly, I am able to concentrate on grammar and translation. For me, Latin is more of a logical puzzle than a language. I feel like every sentence is a conundrum waiting to be solved (or translated in this case) by me.

Ever since I was a toddler, I have been planning to learn several languages. Latin is a language I have never considered simply because I would have not been able to had I stayed in Ethiopia. My family and close friends are still awed by the fact that I have not dropped the class. They are even more amazed that I like it. If nothing else, I will forever be thankful to Hamilton for giving me the opportunity to learn and love Latin.

Which Fashion-Forward Celebrity is Your Style Match?

by Alexandra Gay '17
FEATURES CONTRIBUTOR

We love seeing our favorite celebs in action, whether they're on the film screen, busting out crazy chords in a heart-searing music video or strutting fiercely down the runway. Yet our admiration for the famous doesn't stop there; today's media and society love to see what these figures look like when they're not on set or in front of a huge audience—that is, what they're like in the moments when they're truly themselves instead of adopting another persona. For most celebrities, street style is a means through which they can express themselves off-set—think of all the photos paparazzi snap of them that end up in the magazines and online news blasts we read. For us, this means wardrobe inspiration. While we may not be able to afford Prada from head-to-toe like they can, we can do our best to emulate these stars and their fashionable get-ups, whether it's one of their "airport" outfits or a look they throw on after an afternoon Pilates class. Cara Delevingne, Diane Kruger and Kylie Jenner are three of the most photographed stars right now, and reasonably so. All three have a strong sense of who they are, and are fearless in using their wardrobes to say, "This is me!" Each offers a very different approach to their wardrobes, however. Wondering which celeb should be your fashion mentor? Keep reading to find out:

If you're fun, a little quirky and consider yourself a "boss"...

Cara Delevingne is your girl. Once one of the most frequent faces on runways from NYC to Tokyo and now a self-made actress (you saw her debut in John Green's *Paper Towns*, I hope), Delevingne's style is infectiously "her" and demonstrates the dichotomy between her professional life and her underlying playful side. On red carpets, she can be seen wearing everything from sleek slacks with edgy cropped tanks (Met Gala 2014) to high-waisted black panties with a flowing sheer lace dress overtop (GQ London 2014), but the true Delevingne is queen of casual attire. Her goofy, relaxed, yet comfy self shines through most in her camouflage jackets, baggy graphic tees, conversational beanies and Timberlands. To emulate Cara's look, pair an oversized graphic tee with your favorite skinny jeans, or even leggings if you want to keep it comfortable. Add a snapback or backwards baseball hat and simple sneakers (Adidas Superstars or Supergas are always good options), and you're all set. Cara would be proud.

If you're elegant and like to keep it classic...

Diane Kruger is your inspiration. The *Inglorious Bastards* star is continually mentioned as one of Hollywood's fanciest. Kruger's style is consistently gorgeous and classic: think crisp white oxford shirts, statement party dresses with romantic lace accents, classic sailor stripes and long lightweight blazers to elevate her simpler looks. To pay homage to Diane in your own wardrobe, pair a white eyelet lace dress with a bright-colored pair of stilettos that will contrast the simplicity of the dress. Pair with a petite crossbody bag and a statement necklace for a look that is simple yet refined—and oh-so Diane.

If you're sexy and you know it...

Take a few hints from Instagram Queen and American Socialite Kylie Jenner. The young star's wardrobe is quite basic and casual—but always sexy. Like her older sister Kim, Kylie seizes any opportunity to show off her curves, whether it's in a bright red bodycon dress or in a crop top tee and high-waisted skinny jeans that fit like a glove. Strappy/lace-up heels and black boots, from Chelsea ankle boots to over-the-knee styles are also essential if you're looking to keep up with this Kardashian. While Kylie keeps her wardrobe itself on the simpler side, she likes to instead be adventurous with her hair and makeup styles—colored hair, plump lips, extra-long lashes and supremely-arched eyebrows are essential elements to her iconic look. If you want to be like Kylie, keep your look simple but sexy: wear your favorite mini-skirt (it's not Kylie-esque if it doesn't hug your booty) with an interesting crop top, whether it has cut-out sides or a strappy back. Put on the highest heels you can manage walking in (just like Beyoncé said, "pretty hurts," people!) and a long lightweight blazer, and you're ready to hit the streets in full Kylie fashion.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ALEXANDRA GAY '17

Trying her hand at a casual Cara Delevingne look, Alexandra Gay '17 is wearing VSVP A$AP Rocky Beanie, her grandmother's flannel shirt, Supreme tank top, H&M jeggings and Nike Dunk Ski Hi Wedge Sneakers.

Hamilton Choir performs in Wellin

On October 23rd and 24th, the College Hill Singers and the Hamilton College Choir, led by conductor Rob Kolb, performed for both parents and students in Wellin Hall. College Hill Singers, a smaller, more select choir, performed three songs, two of which were sung excerpts from works of Shakespeare in honor of the upcoming 400th anniversary of his death. Immediately after, the choir, comprised of 53 Hamilton students, performed five songs. This included two beautiful Alleluias and an upbeat gospel piece to end the performance. Many of the choir members had solos throughout the performance, showcasing their impressive talent. The performances were well received and demonstrated the Hamilton students' dedication to sharing their love of music.

PHOTO BY OLIVIA FULLER '19
Choir performs on Parent's Weekend.

A capella shines in Chapel

Among the many events that took place over Parent's Weekend, one stood out in particular: the highly attended a capella concerts. The songs performed ranged from modern, such as a beautifully arranged rendition of Sia's "Elastic Heart," to classics, such as Stevie Wonder's "Signed, Sealed, Delivered I'm Yours," and from high energy to quiet and poignant. Highlights of the evening included a creative medley of songs about flight performed by Duelly Noted, a rendition of The Buffer's classic and always hilarious "If I Were Not a Buffer," (now including a pitch-perfect mockery of Donald Trump and a joke about "knotty" freshmen that was met with nervous laughter from parents and students alike), and a performance of Britney Spear's "Toxic" from The Hamiltones with vocals that very nearly brought the crowd to their feet. Watching these groups perform isn't just entertaining, it's incredibly impressive, a sentiment that was echoed in the crowd's rapt attention and enthusiastic responses to all five groups. If you haven't checked out one of these concerts, be sure to catch the upcoming Chritmas show.

Hamilton Orchestra

The Hamilton College Orchestra, under the direction of Professor of Music Heather Buchman kicked off the Saturday night concert with a performance of Mozart's 1784 *Symphony No. 36*, known as the *Linz Symphony*. The entire symphony was written in just four days during a stopover on a trip from Vienna to Salzburg. The Orchestra also performed the first, second and last movements of Dvorák Czech Suite. HCO is also working on Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker. They are collaborating with Utica Dance for the second year in a row.

Family Weekend Recap

Acoustic Coffeehouse

Alpenglow performed the third CAB Acoustic Coffeehouse of the semester this past Thursday. After an unexpected fire alarm postponed the concert, the band delivered a wonderful performance that had students out of their seats and dancing right in front of the stage. In addition to their soothing tracks, the band's physical arrangement on stage was quite interesting. The lead singer was standing more towards the back of the stage, uniquely taking the focus away from the vocals and onto the performance as a whole.

Towards the end of the concert, the band brought three lucky contestants on stage to compete in a dance competition. Congratulations to the winner, Nina Byers '16.

Gamelan music demonstration

Students in Professor of Music Lydia Hammesley's "Studies in World Music" class gave a demonstration of Javanese gamelan music on Friday, under the guidance of Joko Sutrisno of Sumunar Indonesian Music and Dance. It capped off a week of intensive daily lessons with Sutrisno, who accompanied the class on percussion. They played five pieces, including Sutrisno's original piece, "Wong Donyo," which incorporated elements of pop music. It was the clear audience-favorite. The demonstration also included traditional pieces "Manyar Sewu," "Sayuk" and "Ayun-ayun." The gamelan style is from the island of Java, and it emphasizes the interlocking of individual parts to create melodic structures. Hammesley teaches the class every other year.

Jazz Ensemble Performs

The Hamilton College Jazz Ensemble performed six tunes for Family Weekend on Saturday night. The setlist included big band funk like Jeff Jarvis's "Backdraft." Other highlights on the night included Scott Arcangel's arrangement of "My Favorite Things" featuring Sarah Hooper '16 on vocals and a new piece by conductor 'Doc' Michael Woods, professor of music. The band has benefitted from an influx of new members, filling their previously undermanned trumpet section. Select members of the group will be performing in Café Opus in the Jazz Combo concert on Nov. 9. The Jazz Ensemble will also be performing there on Dec. 7, building on their setlist from the weekend. They'll be playing new big band music from Doc Woods and bassist Lucas Phillips '16.

F.I.L.M. brings Stacey Steers

Stacey Steers appeared in person this weekend as a part of the Fall 2015 F.I.L.M. series. She presented her 2011 film, *Night Hunter*, an astounding fifteen minute work of hand-made animation created the from over 4,000 collages and shot it in 35mm color. The most interesting aspect of the presentation, however, was the talkback with Steers. As she addressed the audience, she discussed the process of creating her film and compared her work with animations to her experience with drawing. At the end of the discussion, no one could doubt that she deserved being named a 2014 Guggenheim Fellow.

PHOTO BY BRENNAN SMITH '16
Stacey Steers discusses her work with animation in the film *Night Hunter* at Sunday's F.I.L.M event.

WHCL 88.7FM

Show Profile:

Off the Crossbar

Tuesdays at 5 p.m.

with...

Alex (A'Pop) Popovic '16 and Will Wassmer '16

Soccer is America's sport of the future. At Off the Crossbar, we aim to provide full coverage of the world of soccer, focusing on Hamilton's teams and the English Premier League. With analysis, guest appearances, and intelligent and passionate soccer broadcast, we will provide Hamiltonians with the wall-to-wall soccer coverage they can't get anywhere else.

Typical Discussion:

Hamilton soccer

English Premier League

International updates

Hot/Not players

Teams and players of the week

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Yodapez and Improv Shmimprov hold night of laughter in Fillius Events Barn

by Kyandreia Jones '19
Arts & Entertainment Writer

With quips, amusing anecdotes and all around tomfoolery, Hamilton College's own Yodapez opened for the improv group Improv Shmimprov in the Events Barn this past Friday.

How do the words "spaghetti," "deer leg family crest" and "Thanksgiving" share the same sentence without confusion? Delivery.

Yodapez successfully transformed mundane words into outrageous words due to the way that each entertainer followed the previous jokester.

At one point during Yodapez's set, members began an anecdote about a mother who made lunch for her unappreciative children. This seems boring, predictable and ubiquitous, right?

But then the mother said she took 20 minutes to make said lunch. What was in the lunch? A pot of rice with vegetables? A baked chicken, perhaps? No, the mother took 20 minutes to make what she referred to as "peanut butter jellies." The idea of such intense sandwich making is so outrageous that the audience could not help but laugh.

In this example, Yodapez showed that the way to laughter is through manipulating all the crowd's expectations.

As the children in this set elucidated their true reasons for not eating the lunch, more laughter ensued. It was revealed that the mother's son is allergic to peanut butter and that was why he didn't eat his lunch. The mother was dejected by his refusal to consume something she worked so hard to prepare. To this, the son expressed that she took 20 minutes to prepare the sandwich but his peanut allergy was a "lifetime allergy." In a final testament to the mother's ridiculousness and irrationality, the mother asked, "You couldn't sacrifice one anaphylactic shock for my feelings?"

Another gem from Yodapez's running skits was when a father and son found themselves at odds. "I have a beautiful career path," the son said, "lined up in my imagination." The son had plans to start a rapping career. The father had plans to teach the son that with anything in life, whether it be building houses, riding horses or practicing surgery and killing a few guys in the process, giving up is not the answer.

After the son had killed a third man in another failed surgery, the father walked in and saw the dead body. When his son refused to continue trying and said, "I tried three times. That's my limit," the father prompts his son to try the surgery again instead of abandoning the task like he had done in the past with horse riding and building houses.

As it often does in comedy, a small token shows up amongst the punch lines and chuckles in the father's next line, "You try till it works."

In all their shenanigans and truths hidden under hilarious anecdotes, Yodapez did more than just warm up the crowd. Yodapez set the bar.

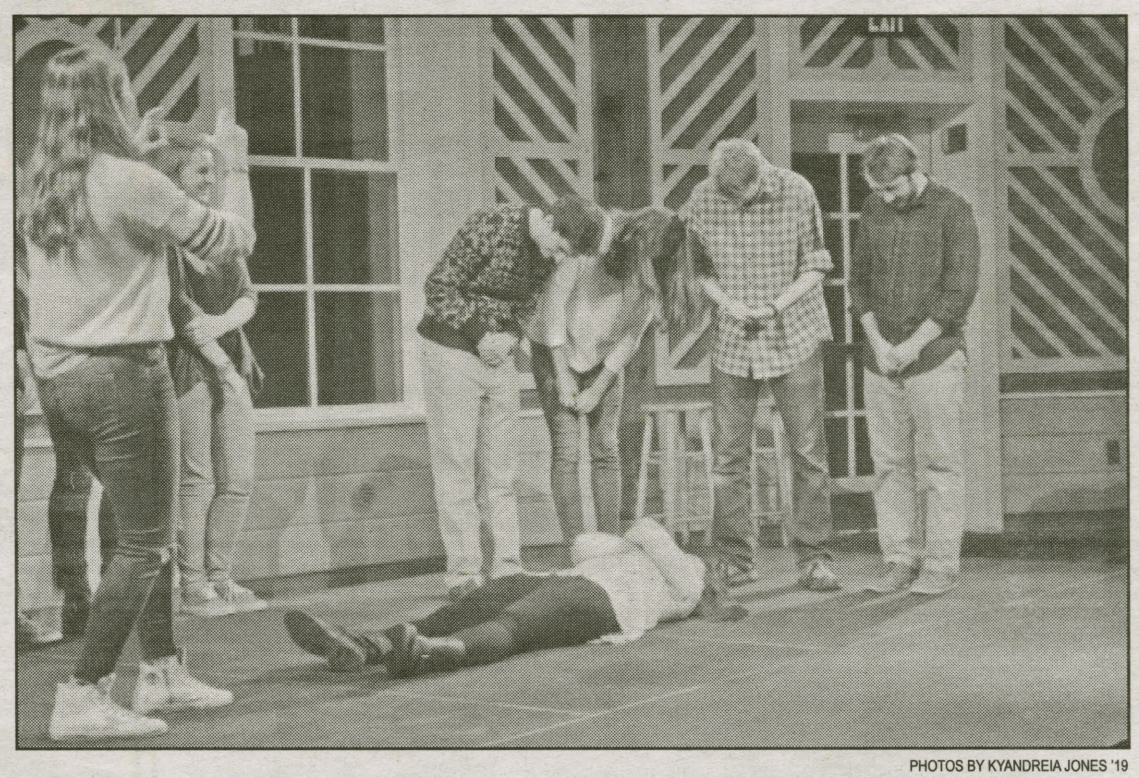
However, the main event, Improv Shmimprov, surpassed that bar.

Playing on the famous improv comedy show *Whose Line Is It Anyway?*, Improv Shmimprov entertained the crowd with games such as "Voicemail," "Mannequin," "Texts From Last Night," "Hecklers," "Romantic Comedy" and "One-liners."

The most notable games were "Texts From Last Night," "One-liners" and a game called "So Long!" that was invented on the spot by comic Spencer D. Blair.

For "The Texts From Last Night," Drew Boudreau, the host, asked audience members for an iPhone, without providing an explanation for how it would be used. The only person willing to give up a phone was Laur, the event's technician.

Once Boudreau had the phone, he explained that the game required another comic, Lindsay Brooks, to act as a travel agent who could only respond to the texts on Laur's phone. Meanwhile, fellow comedians Blair and Daneesh Jon Noshirvan were acting as tourists that were lost in a desert. As Blair and Noshirvan became more and more frantic to get out of the desert, Brooks' replies of "I'm just going to sing the national anthem," "Eh... Wednesday?" and "Oh... Carl didn't say it was okay" were hysterical. The more daunting aspect of that game was that it answered the question: who is Lor the technician?



PHOTOS BY KYANDREIA JONES '19

Spencer D. Blair (bottom) with Improv Shmimprov, and opener Yodapez brought a night of comedy to the Barn this past Friday.

The next game, "One-liners" began with the number 185, and was then followed by the nouns members of the audience shouted out. With these nouns, the comedians began a joke and made a pun out of the nouns given.

"185 candles walk into a bar," said Noshirvan, "and the bartender says, 'Be our guest!'"

"185 kittens walk into a bar," said comedian Topher Mauerhan. "and the bartender says, 'We don't serve your [pauses] kind around here!' And the kittens say, 'Dude what's up with the paws?'"

The comedians also used the given nouns to set up their puns and were told to act like they were Nicholas Cage about to cause an explosion in an action movie upon delivering their punch lines. After all the Nicolas Cage punch lines, each performer pretended to throw a match into a vat of gasoline.

When they were given the noun "ice cream," Brooks redeemed herself with the line "It's been a rocky road," after she had a tough time with the 185 punchlines.

The final noun, "plumbers," inspired the punchiest of all punchlines: "Draino way you're getting out of here," said Spencer Blair. "[Mario voice] It's you, you're dead!" said Noshivran.

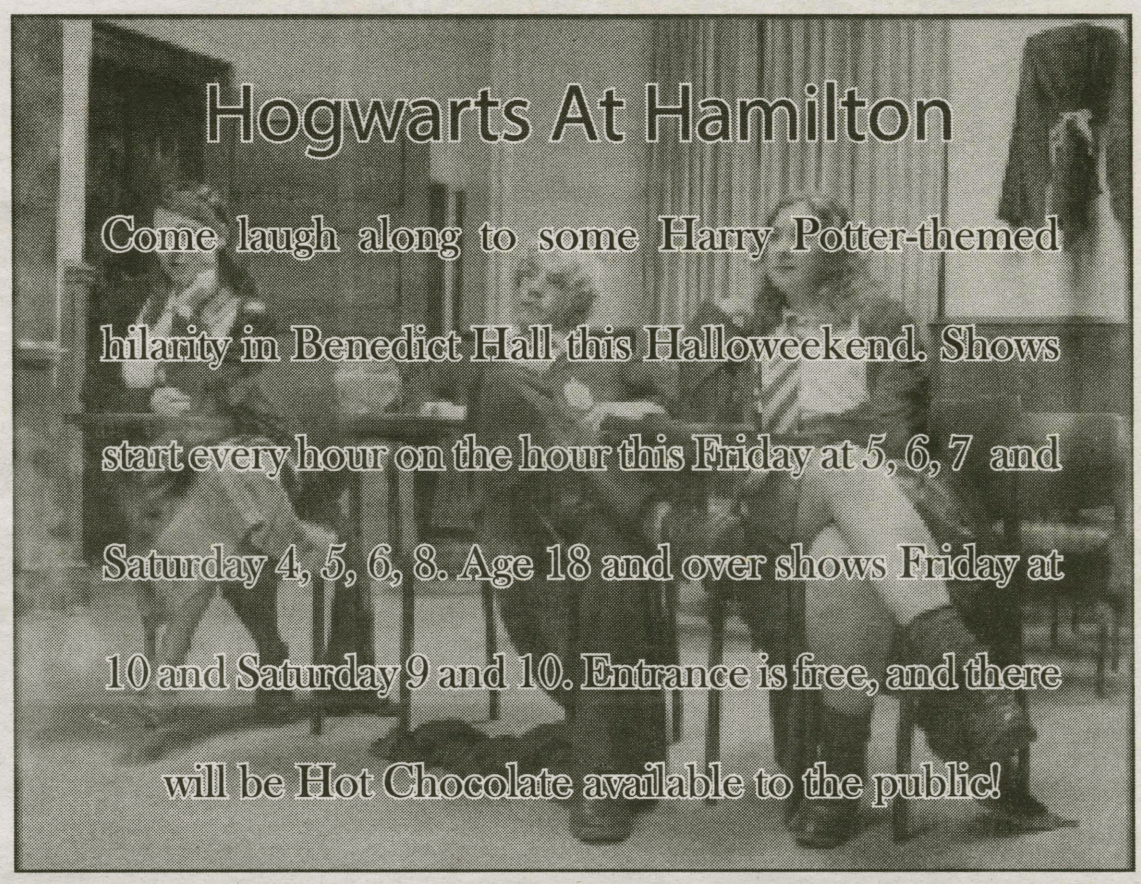
As the final game of the night, the audience got to vote on a sketch pitched by each comedian. Blair won with his ambitious (and crazy) idea of starting a scene with all four comedians and then voting a comic out until there was only one left standing to play all four roles.

By some stroke of luck, or rather karma, Blair ended up being the last comic standing. He took on the roles of his fellow entertainers (he masterfully captured Lindsay Brooks screech, I might add).

The audience ate up every moment. It was extremely amusing to see each performer assume the role of the actor who left and scramble to remember all that had been done and said.

Yodapez and Improv Shmimprov both made members of the audience active participants and partners in crime in all their skits. This made for an experience that could never be duplicated, and strengthened the relationship between the performers and the audience.

We all got more than our fair share of spontaneity out of the night and, more than that, we got reasons to laugh our guts out.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Come laugh along to some Harry Potter-themed hilarity in Benedict Hall this Halloweekend. Shows start every hour on the hour this Friday at 5, 6, 7 and Saturday 4, 5, 6, 8. Age 18 and over shows Friday at 10 and Saturday 9 and 10. Entrance is free, and there will be Hot Chocolate available to the public!

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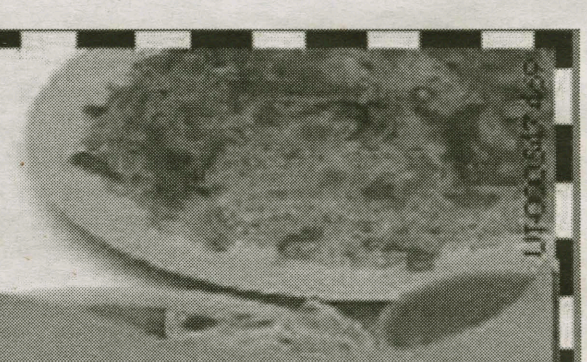

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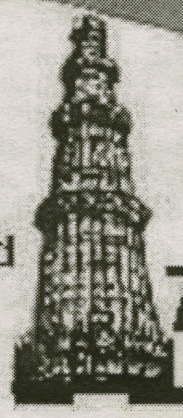

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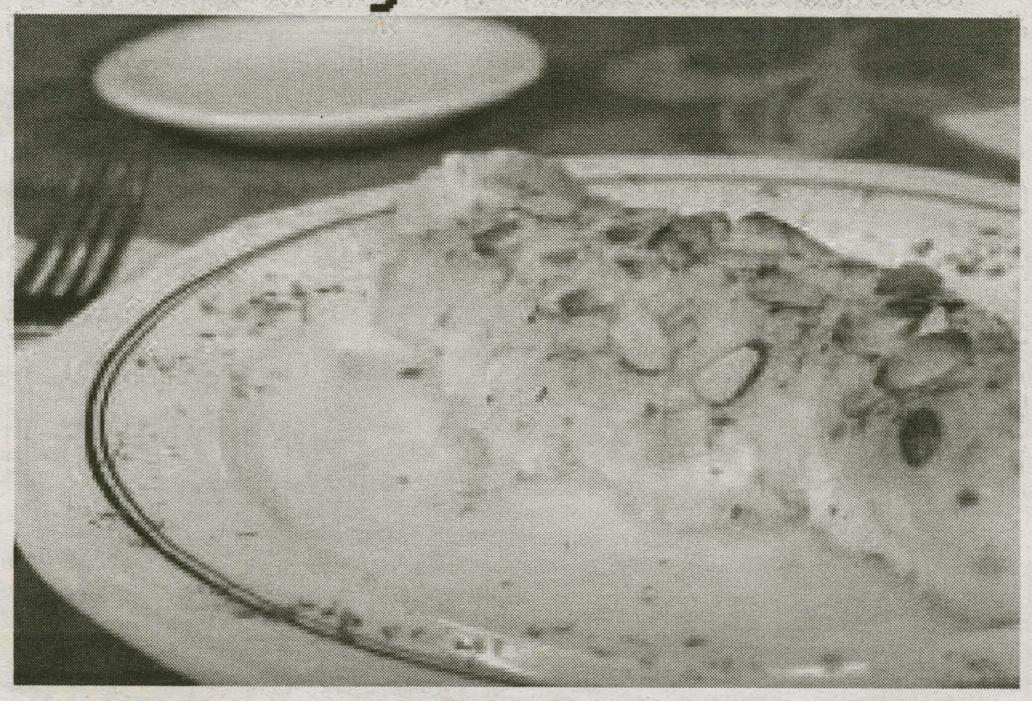

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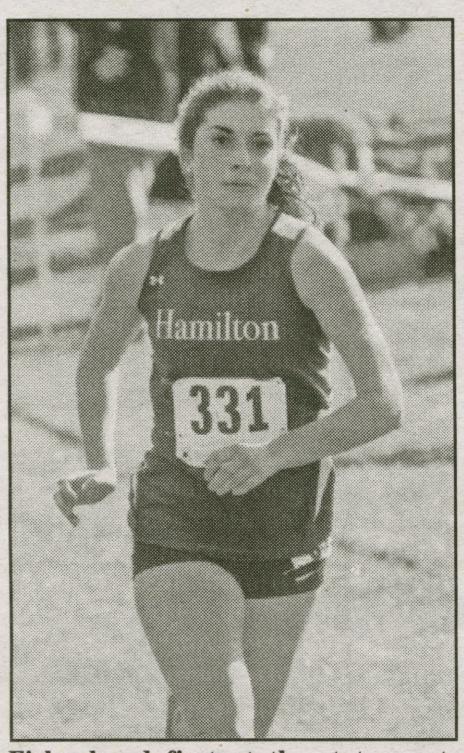
Fish '17, Pfander '16 lead cross country teams to NYSCTC meet victories

from ***Cross Country,*** *page 1*

last year's Division III National Championships, due to a stress fracture, and Lindsay Heyer '17, who made the 2014 NYSCTC all-conference team. Despite the loss of these important contributors, the team pulled off a remarkable achievement, which should help build up momentum as they prepare for this week's NESCAC conference race.



Fish placed first at the state meet.

From the outset of the men's race, Hamilton was in the lead. Running in the lead pack all the way through, Adam Pfander '16, Harry Sullivan '16, Jack Moses '16 and Jack Pierce '17 controlled the pace of the race and occupied the top four spots. The Continentals' fastest runner at the Hamilton Invitational, Pierce, led for the start of the race; however, Pfander, winner of this race in 2013, and Moses eventually caught up to him and raced ahead to finish first and second respectively. Pierce finished only six seconds after Moses with a time of 25:34 and Sullivan was right behind to grab fourth place.

Evan Abelson '16 explained this approach, stating, "Our goal was to win this meet decisively. Other teams have been skeptical of our ability to perform consistently well, but we have dominated our past two meets and established ourselves as legitimate contenders for Nationals."

Sprinting neck and neck, they encouraged each other throughout the entire race. It also permitted the team to practice running in a pack, which will be important in the more challenging races to come as strategy becomes essential to success.

The men's coach, Brett Hull, lauded his team, saying, "This meet was a good tune-up for the NESCAC Championship. It allowed for us to shake off any competitive rust from Fall Break. It was definitely a confidence booster." Abelson finished fifth in 25:54, a personal record. All seven scoring finishers earned NYSCTC recognition along with Peter Deweirdt '18 and Reilly Shew '19, who placed 16th and 17th respectively. Additionally, Pfander, Moses, Sullivan, Henry Whipple '18, David Freeman '16 and Deweirdt set their personal-bests on a course that is known to be exceptionally challenging.

Additionally, for their strong showings, Pfander and Fish were both honored as Division III Athletes of the Week by the US Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. Like Pfander, Fish posted her personal best time over the weekend, the seventh-best time ever run on the Continentals' 6K course.

For both teams, two straight home meets should serve as a helpful springboard into the rest of the postseason when they will be expected to continue pushing ahead and notch new records. Berg recapped the encouraging outcome, saying, "This race demonstrated we have a lot of individual talent and have improved a lot over the course of the season. Now we need to focus more on reducing the time between our first runner and seventh runner." This week they will travel to Middletown, Connecticut where Wesleyan will host the NESCAC championships, a race filled with some of the best Division-III runners in the country.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

M. cross country claimed the top four spots at the state meet.

Field hockey sweeps family weekend homestand to reach NESCAC playoffs

by Sterling Xie '16
Sports Editor

Over the past two seasons, Hamilton College's field hockey program has undergone one of the most drastic turnarounds of any varsity sports team on campus. After winning just a single NESCAC game during the 2012 season and going winless in conference games in 2013, the Continentals have now qualified for the postseason two years in a row. Hamilton actually earned the final playoff spot on a coin flip last year, but this season, the Continentals made the eight-team field with a place to spare, finishing seventh with a record of 9-6 overall and 4-6 in the NESCAC.

Entering Family Weekend on Oct. 24-25, the field hockey squad had dropped four of its previous five games, with all four losses coming against conference competition. The two-week skid dropped the Continentals from a comfortable playoff position to the periphery of the postseason, as Hamilton needed a win against Colby to ensure their season would continue. Fortunately, the team was able to deliver under pressure, sweeping the weekend with a 5-2 defeat of the Mules and a 4-1 win over Utica College the following day.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Brown '16 believes passion for the game has spurred the program's turnaround.

Casey Brown '16, who ranks second on the team with 10 goals and 23 total points, suggested there was extra motivation surrounding the team while it still controlled its own playoff fate. "There was a lot of fire going into the Colby game due to our earlier loss to Williams that week," she explains. "We know we excel if we all mentally show up. As a team we really wanted to beat Colby, so there was never a doubt in my mind we would not rise to the occasion. Our Colby game gave us a lot of confidence playing Utica; I don't think losing that game entered a single person's mind. It was our senior game so a win was necessary. "

Leading scorer Eva Rosencrans '17 posted her 10th career multi-goal game against Colby, scoring with 4:14 left in the first half to break a 1-1 tie that would put Hamilton ahead for good. Additionally, Merisa Dion '17 tallied three goals over the weekend, including the opening goal against Colby, which occurred when Brown's shot ricocheted off the goal post and set Dion up in front of the net.

Rosencrans' scoring prowess has been the driving force behind Hamilton's turnaround the past two years, but as this year's roster composition illustrates, she is hardly the sole reason for the Continentals' turnaround. Brown and midfielder Aubrey Coon '16 are the team's only seniors, with the team largely depending on underclassmen such as Rosencrans, Dion, Margaret Revera '18 and Emma Anderson '17.

"Our team was young but it's been an awesome season because we've really flowed together and our chemistry works so well," says Dion, who has assumed a much larger role in 2015 and ranks third on the team with seven goals and 17 points. "I found that my leadership role has not been as intense since everyone, including underclassmen, have been stepping up...Both Aubrey and Casey have been such supportive, leading forces, but I feel that this year we've been making decisions collectively, instead of one person making decisions for the whole team. It's been great to work with and get better with a whole group of teammates working towards the same goal."

Brown echoed a similar sentiment, suggesting that everyone has

see ***Field Hockey,*** *page 15*

Game-winning goal seals NESCAC playoff berth for women's soccer

by Patrick Malin '18
SPORTS EDITOR

The Hamilton women's soccer team clinched a berth in the NESCAC playoffs on a late header by Darby Philbrick '18 to beat Colby on Saturday. The Continentals will play Williams in the first round, a team that has only lost one game this season.

The Continentals entered Saturday's contest against Colby needing a win to earn a place in this weekend's NESCAC playoffs. Colby headed into the weekend with the worst record in the NESCAC, failing to tally a win in a conference competition at any point during the season.

Hamilton jumped out to an aggressive start against the Mules, dominating possession and creating several scoring chances in the opening minutes of the must-win game. In the 23rd minute, Katie Kreider '18 capitalized on a long pass from Bea Blackwell '17, heading the ball into the back of the net past the outstretched arm of the Colby goalkeeper. The go-ahead goal was Kreider's fifth goal of the season, tying her for the team lead.

At the beginning of the second half, Colby drew even, scoring a goal just 29 seconds after play restarted. Colby looked to take the lead in the 79th minute, when Emily Renkey '19 rocketed a shot off the post, and another rebound attempt was blocked inside the box.

Minutes after nearly conceding, the Continentals scored the game-winning goal in the 81st minute to clinch a playoff spot in the NESCAC Championship. A corner-kick was mishandled by the Colby goalie and ended up at the feet of forward Philbrick at the right post, who calmly placed the ball in the goal to give the Continentals the lead with less than 10 minutes remaining on the clock. The Hamilton defense slammed the door shut, not allowing a shot on goal after Philbrick's goal to secure a NESCAC playoff spot for the third time in five years. Hamilton goalkeeper Rachel Cooley '18 tallied two key saves to record her fifth win of the season.

PHOTOS BY JACK HAY '19

Morgan Fletcher '17 is a key starter on the strong 2015 Hamilton defense.

"I was luckily back post and able to redirect the ball into the goal. It was definitely a super exciting moment. I turned around and saw four of my teammates sprinting towards me to give me a hug. I think we all knew that with 9 minutes still left in the match we had a job to get done, so all the energy that came from the goal was translated into focus of not letting Colby back into our defensive half," said Philbrick.

The women's team has not lost a game in regulation since Sept. 20 against Middlebury, and is looking to carry that momentum into the NESCAC playoffs. The Continentals' defense has proved to be dominant throughout the season, notching six shutouts this year, including two key victories over Fallcoming weekend against NESCAC opponents Wesleyan and Tufts. The Continentals rebounded from a 0-4-2 start to finish the regular season with an overall record of 7-5-3, and a NESCAC record of 3-4-3.

Hamilton concluded its season with a 4-0 victory over SUNY-Oswego on Oct. 28. Both Kreider and Philbrick carried over their impressive Family Weekend performances into the Oswego game, each netting their sixth goals of the season to lead the team in goal scoring. Kreider also has the most assists (seven) and points (seventeen) on the team. Ali Clarke '17 scored the first goal of the game for and Hannah Withiam '16 added a goal of her own to round out the scoring for the Continentals. The Hamilton defense held strong, keeping Oswego to just three shots in 90 minutes. Both Cooley and Emily Dumont '18 saw time in goal, Dumont tallying three saves and preserving the cleansheet victory.

Philbrick said, "our team's reluctance to give up and positive energy drove us through October without a loss. We didn't change much about our "big-picture" game but we worked on all the little things, like utilizing our center-midfielders, switching the field and finishing our shots. We knew we had to beat Colby to clinch the playoff spot, and I think none of us were ready to let our six seniors have their season end early. Although it wasn't our best performance of the season, we got the job done and now we're ready to battle it out in playoffs."

The Continentals will take on the number-one seeded Williams soccer team that has only lost one game over the entire season. The Ephs dominated NESCAC play this year, finishing with a 9-1 NESCAC record and a 13-1-1 overall record. The Continentals will travel to Williamstown, Mass. on Oct. 31 at 11:00 am in an effort to reach the NESCAC semifinals for the first time in school history (the women's soccer team competed in the Liberty League until 2011).

"They are an incredibly talented team, but we are more than ready to work for the win. It could go either way, just like most games in the NESCAC, but I think if we play with heart and do all the little things, it'll be a very happy bus ride home," said Philbrick.

Field hockey to face Williams

*from **Field Hockey**, page 14*

begun to pull in the same direction over the past two years, supplying a cohesiveness that did not necessarily exist during the 2012 and 2013 seasons. "My first year, field hockey was a job for a lot of the upperclassmen," she asserted. "They wanted to win but did not have the competitive drive or desire to do what it takes. After the first goal in a lot of our games we would give up. This year we have a lot of true field hockey players and competitors. Our team consistently showed up early to practice because we were excited to play, get better, and win...We are very passionate about it. Even for the juniors, field hockey is in their blood. In my mind, I can see most of my teammates playing adult field hockey or even coaching after college because we value the sport so much."

"We know we excel if we all mentally show up. As a team we really wanted to beat Colby, so there was never a doubt in my mind we would not rise to the occasion."
—Casey Brown '16

The Continentals will travel to Williams College to play the number two seed Ephs on Oct. 31. Hamilton lost 7-0 during their regular season meeting at Williamstown, but head coach Gillian McDonald believes the team is an entirely different squad from the one that lost badly in September. "Middlebury is a great team. Our game with them was right at the beginning of the season. We have made a lot of adjustments since then and have improved. We have a week to prepare for them and we are going to do our best to put ourselves in a position to beat them."

Regardless of that game's outcome, the field hockey program has now made tangible progress in each of the past two seasons. With a bevy of starters set to return for the 2016 campaign, this season might serve as an appetizer for a larger step forward next fall.

PHOTO COURTESY OF MIKE DOHERTY

Becca Rees '16 leads the team in shots this season.

H SPECTATOR SPORTS
October 29, 2015

Rowing teams conclude successful fall seasons at the Head of the Schuykill

by Jane Bary '19
Sports Writer

The men's and women's rowing teams capped off their fall seasons last weekend with promising performances at the Head of the Schuylkill in Philadelphia.

The men's four boat came in 9th place out of nearly 50 boats, behind Division I schools like the University of Pennsylvania and the United States Military Academy. The eight boat finished in the middle of the pack, placing 19th out of 30 boats, also behind many Division I boats and ahead of Division III rivals like Union College and SUNY Geneseo.

Hamilton fields a men's four, eight and a novice eight and on the women two eights and a novice eight. The "varsity four" boats are made up of four rowers and a coxswain, who helps steer the boat. "Eight" boats are made up of eight rowers and a coxswain. Boats with eight rowers can be entered in the varsity division, for more experienced rowers, or the novice division, if the rowers are new to collegiate competition.

Hamilton's novice boat on the men's side finished 21st out of 38 boats this weekend.

Though the Continentals have a short fall season, they are already gearing up for the spring, when they will compete in smaller races against local rivals as well as some large regattas with many other schools.

"We have a good chance to win all of our dual races and then I think we need to shoot for our best finish ever at ECACs, which is our last meet of the season," said captain Parker Lewis '16, who rows in the varsity four boat, the fall's top boat.

The ECAC race features a lot of NESCAC rivals as well as large schools such as the University of Michigan, and the best NESCAC finisher at the event is named conference champion. Since men's rowing is not an NCAA sport on the men's side, the ECAC meet is the farthest the men can advance each season.

The Hamilton rowers also look forward to dual races against Union and St. Lawrence, both of whom they beat last year.

Though the men's team returns everyone from last year's varsity eight boat, some new rowers show promise and will challenge for spots in the top boat in the spring.

The team practices weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings on the Erie Canal in Rome, N.Y., as well as on indoor rowing machines, known as ergs, in the gym. This fall, the Continentals focused on distance in their practices and aimed to row 15 to 20 kilometers on the water each day.

Now, as Hamilton heads into its offseason, team members are committed to working out so they can make a successful run in the spring.

"Everyone on the team is pretty focused on staying in shape and coming into the spring as good as we were this fall," Lewis said.

The women's squad is in the midst of a rebuilding year, after graduating a good chunk of the varsity eight boat that made it to nationals last spring placing fourth overall and finished the season ranked third in the country in a poll of college rowing coaches. That was the best finish for the Continentals in almost two decades of being a varsity program.

Hamilton's top varsity eight boat placed 13th out of 19 boats this weekend at the Head of the Schuylkill, and was the second best Division III boat in the event. The second varsity eight boat finished 20th out of 47 boats.

"We learned something from each race this fall, and the Head of the Schuylkill gave us a chance to see how we stack up," said captain Heather Piekarz '16. "We are still very competitive amongst other Division III crews and we have set ourselves up for a successful spring."

The women's novice boat finished in the top half of its division, and some of the rowers who made up that boat will look to contribute to the varsity boats in the spring.

"Rowing was always something I wanted to try in high school but I never had time, so I thought I'd try it here," said Caroline Zuchold '19, a novice member of the team.

Hamilton fields a young squad in general on the women's side, with four sophomores and a first year rowing in the top boat.

"The fall season is really about development and beginning to build a base of fitness for the spring racing, so I think what I'm most pleased with is how our athletes have shown improvement in their training and a commitment to getting better, especially given how young many of them are. I also think that our novice squads have shown a lot of promise, which bodes well for the spring and the future," said coach Robert Weber.

Both squads look forward to the team's two-week trip to Tennessee over spring break. The Continentals hope to post a strong performance in the ECAC race, which serves as their conference championship later in the spring. The women's side hosts a national championship, and Hamilton hopes to make it back there for the second time in program history.

"A goal is to replicate what we did last season, to keep up that intensity and have a really solid season," said Charlotte Andrews '17, who rowed in the second varsity eight boat last year and moved to the top boat this fall.

Piekarz, a coxswain who made the All-America team in the spring, believes the team can rebound from the loss of some key seniors from last year's squad.

"We have a large sophomore class, and I've been impressed with their ability to step up into larger roles on the team this year. We also have a large class of walk-on rowers who are contributing in big ways."

Coach Weber is encouraged by the women's strong performances last spring and thinks that both teams can see success at the state and conference level this year.

"Hamilton rowing can be a perennial contender for a New York State Collegiate championship and one of the top teams in the NESCAC," Weber said. "The women have proven that's a realistic goal and continuing to perform at that level is what I would like to see over the long run."

Both the men's and women's rowing teams will next hit the water this spring.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SYDNEY CANTOR '16

The women's varsity team is working toward a second consecutive appearance at Nationals after placing fourth last spring.

"We are still very competitive amongst other Division III crews and we have set ourselves up for a successful spring."
—Heather Piekarz '16

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLINE HARRINGTON '16

The men's varsity four placed first out of Division III schools at the Head of the Schuylkill.